

## MI Child Support Formula - ADM 2003-22-3 Changes

---

**From:** "Steve Hackney" <hackneys@michigan.gov>  
**To:** <MCSF@courts.mi.gov>  
**Date:** 6/16/2003 2:57 PM  
**Subject:** ADM 2003-22-3 Changes

---

I'd like to comment on the Proposed Changes in the Child Support Formula Manual, specifically recommendation number ADM 2003-22-3 Shared Economic - Retroactive Application Clarification. Under the current law, noncustodial parents who spend 128 overnights or more with their child can pay less child support. The proposed change would drop that to 52 overnights a year.

I do not support this change especially because under the new formula, a noncustodial parent who has only 52 overnights per year with his or her children would be allowed to take advantage of the Shared Economic Responsibility Formula to reduce their support payments. This provision to lower the threshold to 52 overnights from the current 128 is unacceptable.

This proposed change would benefit irresponsible non-custodial parents such as my wife's ex-husband who owes his three children approximately \$15,000 in arrearages. These people are constantly looking for ways to dodge their responsibilities, and if they had their way, having to pay anything for the support of their children. This "father" would be content to have my wife (the custodial parent) and I pay for all three of his childrens' total support - while he continues to visit with them every chance he gets - if he could get away with it.

It's time the courts and the system get serious about these deadbeats and start assisting Michigan's children by going after deadbeat parents who aren't supporting them. Harsh punishment including stiff fines and jail time is what's needed to deal with these criminals. That's what they are is criminals because what they're doing to their own children is criminal. The system is a shambles. The deadbeats know it, and they're making a mockery of it at the expense of their own children.

Please DO NOT adopt the proposed changes in ADM 2003-22-3!